600 Page Mystery

By Yukimura Akito Chapter 04

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Happy
Halloween 2015
~Esthetique~

One day in the wonderful world of the Esthetique Realm, a single brave soul approached our admins with the most horrible news ever
Shekyl Proofreader
Whisper
Whisper
Whisper
Rayn Translator
Kuhr
Kitsune Admin
FROZEN
Rose? Did you hear me?
WOBBLE
Oh, crap!
Kitsune-sama! Are you OK?
BONK!
What could've been so bad as to render all of our admins totally unconcious?
Was it a worldwide shortage of manga? Did Shoujo manga cease to exist?
Oh, no! It was something much more sinister
STAFF SHORT-AGES!
SNAP!
HUGE PILES OF TRANSLATED CHAPTERS...
SPREAD THE NEWS, WE NEED NEW EDITORS AND QC-ERS STAT!
If you think you've got what it takes, contact us at esthetiquestaff@gmail.com.

Chapter 4
Schoolgirl
600 Page
Mystery

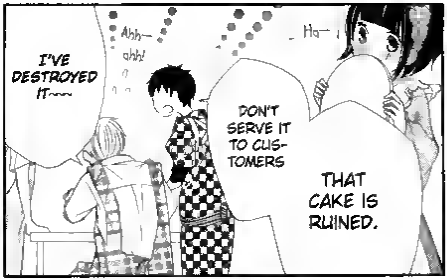
From "Schoolgirl" by Osamu Dazai

ASAMI-CHAN!
AH,
31st Annual
Cultural Festiv
It's the last day...
of our cultural festival.
Welcome!
class 2-3
cafe

But he's not here as a librarian.
Ah!
YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR GLASSES.
Yes, there are four of us.
A party of four.
Sensei came to visit because the library is closed for the day
YEAH.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE YOU'VE COME TO SCHOOL, RIGHT SENSEI?
AND I CAN FINALLY GET TO SEE ASAMI-CHAN.
Eek!
Asami
He's here as my...
boyfriend today
May I take your order please?
YEAH,
SINCE I'M OFF TODAY,

Ahh...
Sensei... Happy Birthday.

Pass orders to Inoue!
Be dignified when serving customers!
I'm soooo happy~~
Badum
Embarrassed
FOUR CUPS OF COFFEE PLEASE!!
Eek!
Badum


Ahh— ahh!
I'VE DESTROYED IT~~~
Ha—
DON'T SERVE IT TO CUSTOMERS
THAT CAKE IS RUINED.

WHAT COULD BE WORSE THAN DESTROYING A CAKE?!
...

A girlfriend who destroyed a birthday cake...
Impossible.
De—pressed
Regret
Regret
Regret
...Right
is too much, right?
?!
WHAT HAPPENED ?!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
Gloomy
Sob. Sob...
smile
...
ASAMI-CHAN,
DO YOU WANT TO GO LOOK AROUND DURING YOUR BREAK?

so gentle...
Sensei is always...
ALL RIGHT...
You're most welcome—
Thanks for the service—
THEN I'LL TAKE MY BREAK NOW-
Be careful on your way!
IT'S A DATE?
A DATE, RIGHT?
smile
smile
smile
smile
Runs
Runs
"I'LL WAIT FOR YOU IN THE COURT-YARD, MIZU-SHIMA."

...DOES THIS LOOK WEIRD...?
Hmmmm
Should I take it off?
This is the weird on me Hum?
Ahh
SFX. Heart skips a beat
!!
AHA!
I found you!
ASAMI-CHAN,
I CAME SINCE I'M ON MY BREAK..
Waa~
AH..
SENSEI
Waa~
...
Aaa— it really does look weird!

I ACTUALLY GOT TO SEE YOU TODAY.
YOU LOOK REALLY CUTE.
I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN WORKING AS A WAITRESS, BUT...
Badum
Badum
Badum
Suddenly,
I feel like I'm being treated like a precious gem
SO I WAS THINKING I SHOULD WORK HARD FOR A BIT..?
BE-
BECAUSE IT'S THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Ah
Their clothes, their bags,
and their hairstyles
are so beautiful
Costume.
...
No matter how much effort I put into dressing up,
I can never win against them
Ah!
Mizushima-san?!
EH?
AH.
I'm going to go now
Don't mind me!
step step step step
It's been a long time-
I saw Tetsu just now too-
Peeks
Sensei's classmates...
—

EH...
Just now, I felt like a precious gem for a moment...
happy one moment then sad the next, my mood changing so quickly
but I'm...
Although sensei just changed his spectacles, he's behaving normally
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING
NO PROBLEM
Are these signs that I'm...
incompatible with sensei?
TO APOLOGIZE, IT'LL BE MY TREAT.
The booths are in the courtyard

I LEAVE IT TO YOU.
SENSEI, I WILL BE YOUR PERFECT ESCORT FOR THE DAY!
HUFF
I have to redeem myself!
This time I must!
EH,
ALL RIGHT.
SOLD OUT!!
SORRY!
Tomorrow Morning
BASEBALL TEAM
egg pancakes
Sold Out!!
Appreciated
...
They seem really popular
AHH,
THEY'RE SOLD OUT.
Nooo
SENSEI, THE BASEBALL TEAM'S EGG PANCAKES ARE DELICIOUS!
THIS WAY!
I have to make up for accidently destroying sensei's birthday cake!

Yummy ...
Chew Chew
I'M SORRY SENSEI...
I WAS REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THOSE.
The egg pancakes.
THEN, SHALL WE TRY THE HERBAL JELLIES OVER IN THE CORNER?
DO YOU LIKE THOSE ASAMI-CHAN?
Eh...
So cozy~
Ahh—
Yeah, this is called a Cultural Festival Magic.
It's because this is the Cultural Festival. So it's super delicious, right?
Ha!
I WANT TO GO SOMEWHERE ELSE!
STARS
SENSEI,
I'VE BEEN SUBDUED, WHAT'S WITH THIS!

I WONDER WHAT THE LIBRARY'S LIKE NOW?
Library
I'm so motivated
HMM...
THEN,
Closed
Sigh
Nooooo.
IT'S CLOSED.
I forgot.
WHY IS IT LIKE THIS...!
AH, SINCE IT'S THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL,

Closed
Library
What should I do?
CAN'T WE GET IT FROM THERE?
THEN ISN'T THERE A KEY IN THE OFFICE?
AND THE ADMINISTRATOR ISN'T AROUND EITHER?

SENSEI, WAIT HERE.
I WILL FIND A WAY.
I'm like this again.
I feel so hate-ful.
THANK YOU.
BUT IT'S ALL RIGHT.
I THOUGHT OF SOME-THING
SFX: kattle x3
Library
?!
HMM,
THIS SHOULD DO IT...
I HOPE I'M REMEM-BERING THIS RIGHT?
SENSEI?!
OH
pppppp

Kachaaa...
I USED TO GET IN THIS WAY.
PARDON ME, I'M HEADED IN—
Used to?

4

The three stories from "Night on the Galactic Railroad" to "Schoolgirl" are written by notable authors and I like every one of them.

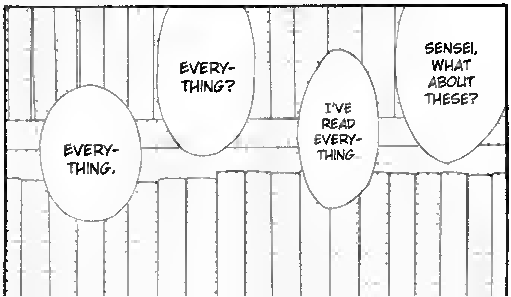
("Love Letter" is considered to be an autobiographical work of Akutagawa-sensei's heartfelt feelings.)

I saw Akutagawa-sensei's Love Letter on TV a few years ago and it hit me really hard.

It was different from the one I read during high school, but it was really awesome! I guess it must be the generation gap.

I'm not too familiar with classic Japanese literature, but I think it would be beneficial to learn more about the writer's personal life before reading their works. Perhaps it would be more fun that way.

It didn't interest me when I was going to school, but now that I'm older, I find classical Japanese literature quite interesting. How amusing.



AND THAT'S WHY YOU BECAME A LIBRARIAN?
YEAH.
—SO, THE FORMER ADMINISTRATOR INSPIRED YOU WHEN HE SAID,
"IF YOU WANT TO STAY IN THE LIBRARY,"
"GO BE A LIBRARIAN."
THAT'S TRUE.
Ha ha ha!
BUT EVEN A LIBRARIAN CAN'T STAY IN THE LIBRARY FOREVER!
IN THE LIBRARY.
I REALLY ENJOY THE SILENCE.

I WOULD SNEAK INTO THE LIBRARY AND START READING
WHEN THERE WERE THINGS I COULDN'T HANDLE DURING MY SCHOOL DAYS,
SO,
I'M SO JEALOUS.
NO MATTER WHAT, ASAMI-CHAN WILL ALWAYS BE ASAMI-CHAN.
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE BOTH READING,

I want to be like sensei.
STRONGER...
SENSEI,
I'M REALLY DISAPPOINTED IN MYSELF
WHEN I'M TOO ENGROSSED IN READING, I ACTUALLY DON'T NOTICE HOW INCAPABLE I REALLY AM
He's really jealous of me?
IF IT'S LIKE THIS, IS IT ALL RIGHT TO FAIL AT EVERYTHING?
I WANT TO BE...

IT'S ABOUT AN UNNAMED SCHOOLGIRL.
SHE REFLECTS AND DESCRIBES EVERYTHING SHE FEELS,
WITH UTMOST FRANKNESS.
"Abbh, arrogance, arrogance."
...
HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE NOVEL "SCHOOL-GIRL"?
...
IT WAS WRITTEN THE YEAR BEFORE "RUN, MELOS!"
BY THE SAME AUTHOR, OSAMU DAZAI.
...
Nope.
I FOUND IT ABSOLUTELY CHARMING.
"Why am I so unsettled?"
"I want to become stronger quickly, become someone who doesn't get distracted easily."

SOMETIMES FEELING EXTREMELY HAPPY
WHILE SOMETIMES FEELING A LITTLE BIT LONELY AND SAD.
SOMETIMES LAUGHING SOMETIMES CRYING
Just like my Asami-chan.

IT'S REALLY GREAT TO BE FRANK WITH OUR FEELINGS!
ASAMI-CHAN, YOU EASILY...
SHOW YOUR FEELINGS SO FREELY.
YOU'RE WONDERFUL, ASAMI-CHAN.

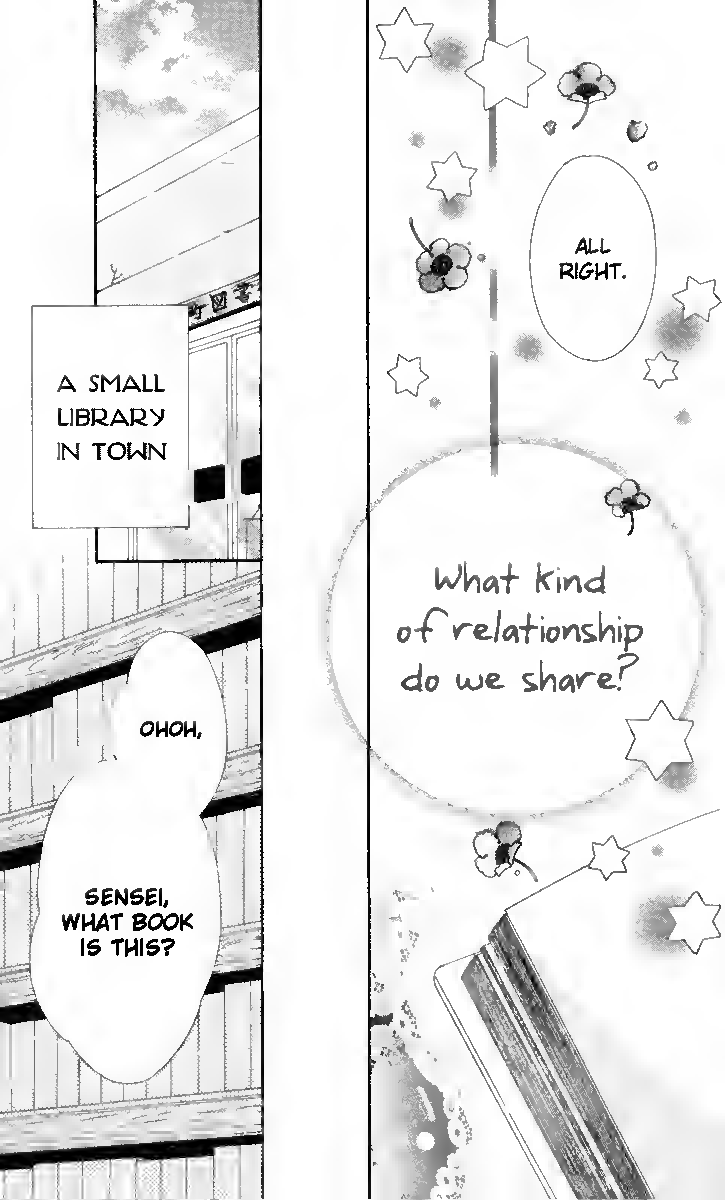
...SO,
I LIKE ASAMI-CHAN THE MOST. ALL OF YOU.

he affirmed me.
All of me,
Always noticing me,
You know,
Sensei knows,
ALL OF ME.
"I want to live beautifully."
despite everything,
I still have to continue working harder.

...
SENSEI,
THANK YOU.
I LOVE YOU THE MOST.
I LOVE YOU.

HEEEY!
TLE RAT
WHO'S IN HERE?!
Kachaaa
Click
WHAT'S THIS? SOMEBODY GOT THE DOOR OPEN WITHOUT A KEY?
SO ANNOYING.
Silence...
EH?
...
BADUM
BADUM
SO...
DANGEROUS!!
BADUM
...
...

HEHE...
When I open a book,
I can look back at the both of us.
...
And what were we doing just now?
WAS THAT YAMAGUCHI-SENSEI?
YEAH.
.....
.....
~~~~~~
Phew
...LET'S GO BACK.
~~~~~~


A SMALL LIBRARY IN TOWN
OHOH,
SENSEI, WHAT BOOK IS THIS?
ALL RIGHT.
What kind of relationship do we share?

THIS BOOK...
Today, as well.
600 PAGE MYSTERY/COMPLETED.